Archives

Carrying Science to Farm People

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Thirty-fourth Annual Report

Extension Service

University of Maryland

College Park, Maryland

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J. Milton Patterson, *Treasurer,* Baltimore

Mrs. John L. Whitehurst, Baltimore

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Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, Extension Service, University of Maryland and United States Department of Agriculture, Cooperating. T. B. SYMONS, Director. Distributed in furtherance of Acts of Congress of May 8 and June 30, 1914.

EXTENSION WORK 1948

T. B. SYMONS, DIRECTOR

THE EXTENSION SERVICE was started 35 years ago to carry the results of research work to farm people. Agricultural Experiment Stations had been accumulating much information that could help farmers with their production problems. Consequently, the Extension Service was organized to conduct demonstrations and, in other ways, show farmers and homemakers how they can use the scientific facts gathered in the laboratory.

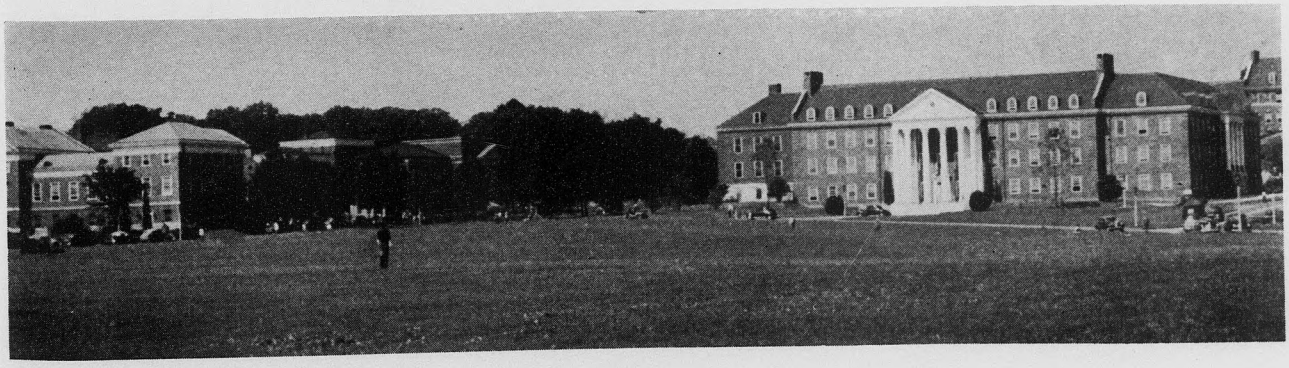
This relationship has continued to the present day. The agricultural experiment stations of this country are still finding the solutions to farm problems, many of which are relatively new. They are developing new varieties and new methods; they are finding new uses for crops and animal products; and they are continuing the so-called basic research to collect facts and data on which the agricultural advances of tomorrow will be founded.

The information thus assembled is of vital importance to farmers, homemakers, and rural youth. It means a new way of life; it may spell the difference between profit and loss; it helps provide better health, happier homes, and more pleasant surroundings; and it permits fewer people to feed an ever-increasing population. Consequently, the responsibility which the Extension Service has of carrying the information to all who need it is a most pleasant, but also a serious, duty. It is a duty that is never completed. The current of agricultural production is constantly changing. Many forces—industrial advances, the effects of peace or war, mechanical developments, outbreaks of diseases or insects affecting crops or animals—combine to present new problems as the old are overcome.

Maryland Agriculture in 1948

Maryland agriculture in 1948 was feeling the full effect of many of these forces. A peace, scarcely two years old, had brought new problems. Thoughts of over-production or under-consumption began to replace the constant drive for greater and greater production. Dairying continued to increase as a major farm enterprise and to bring with it drastic changes in cropping systems and farming methods. High labor costs were bringing home to the tobacco grower the need for revamping customs established for nearly 200 years. A war-expanded poultry industry was attempting to chart a peace-time course. Fruit and vegetable growers, for the first time having ready access to many new chemicals developed during the war for disease and insect control, were learning to use these new tools in the never-ending battle against natural enemies.

New Agriculture Building, Extension Service Headquarters since March 1948.



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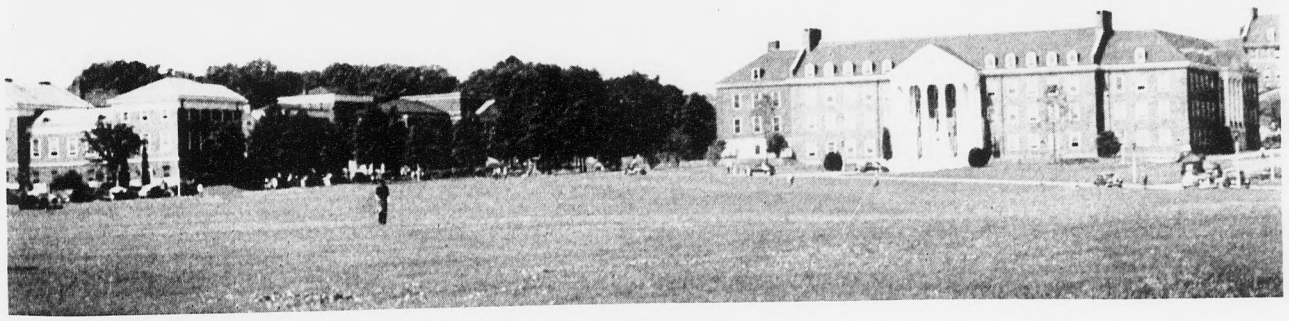

Extension Agents made more than 26,000 farm and home visits.

Economically the year was a good one for most farmers even though costs remained high and prices received for some commodities were lower. Total farm cash income (including Government payments) has been estimated at $248,218,000 as compared to $237,978,000 for 1947, and $206,780,000 for 1946. Supplies of equipment and materials were about equal to demand, but the farm labor problem continued serious.

The Extension Service itself was completing a period of readjustment following the coming of peace. Staff members had returned from service, but many felt the need for further education to bring them up to date in their respective fields. Others left to positions of new responsibility, and new positions were created to meet the demand for additional service. Many new workers were hired to bring the staff back to full working strength and to fill the new positions. Headquarters for the service were moved to the New Agriculture Building on the College Park campus, and every effort was made throughout the year to complete an efficient and smoothly functioning educational organization which can continue to help farm people help themselves.

Representatives of many foreign countries were among the visitors who came to Extension Headquarters at the University for information.

Education

The Extension Service Way

Education in a classroom containing 6,562 square miles with pupils numbered in the hundreds of thousands is not an easy task; especially when the subject matter is almost unlimited in its range. However, a corps of well-trained agents in the field and specialists on the State staff, and hundreds of local leaders formed a highly skilled teaching force to tackle the agricultural problems of 1948.

The education is more effective than one might think after only a casual study. This is true because of the close contact between the extension workers and the people with whom they work. Summaries for the year show that the agents made more than 26,000 farm and home visits and received more than twice that many office callers and almost four times as many phone calls. These personal contacts permit the agents to answer individual problems with up-to-date research findings.

The farm and home visits serve another purpose. They allow the agents to observe the recommended practices in action and learn modifications which must be made to fit the practice to local conditions. They also discover improvements which homemakers and farmers have developed for themselves. These, too, are worked into the educational program so that all may benefit.

Just as agricultural practices and homemaking methods are constantly changing and improving, so are extension teaching methods. Dairy cattle breeders and dairy specialists developed calf selection days as a method of interesting 4-H members in better dairy stock. Plant Pathologists teamed up with pathologists in other states to provide a plant disease warning service. Agricultural economists prepared monthly "Look Ahead" articles to help keep rural people informed of economic changes that would be affecting them. Project leaders in Homemakers' Clubs played an increasingly important role in teaching subject matter in the clubs of the country.

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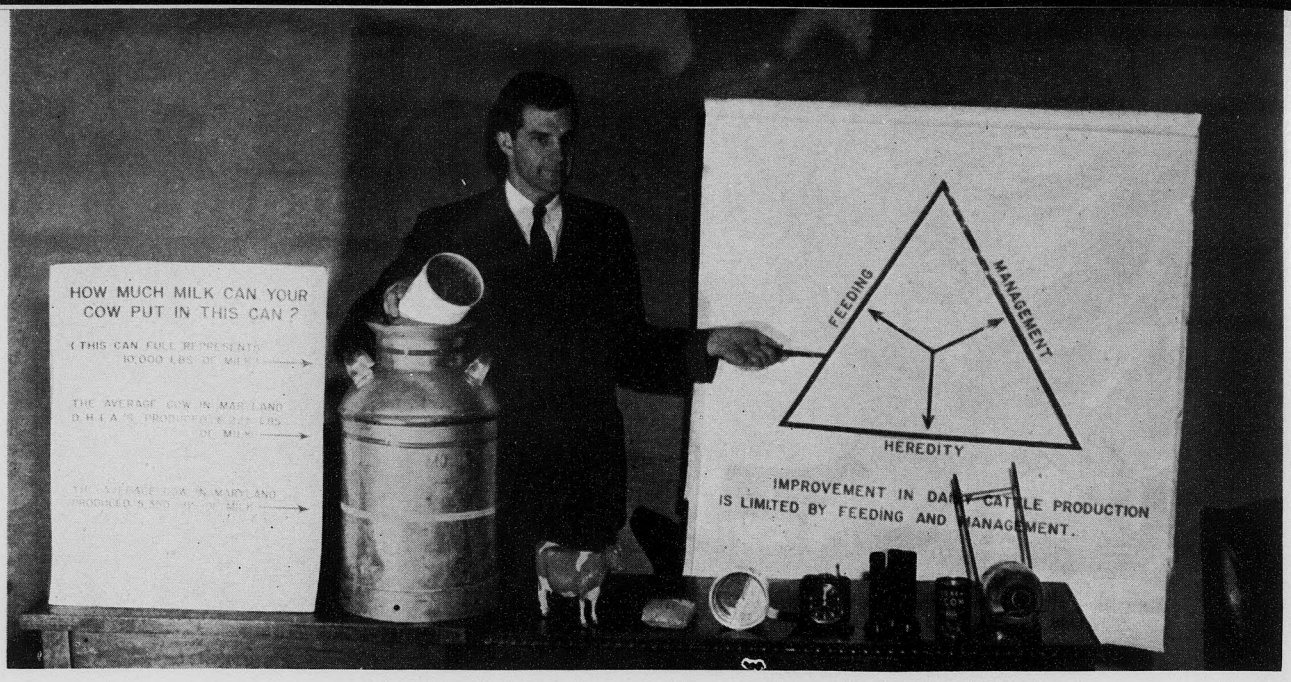

HOW MUCH MILK CAN YOUR COW PUT IN THIS CAN ?
FEEDING
MANAGEMENT
HEREDITY
IMPROVEMENT IN DAIRY CATTLE PRODUCTION IS LIMITED BY FEEDING AND MANAGEMENT.

Demonstrations such as this were featured at winter meetings.

Dairy

The number of milk cows in Maryland increased to 232,000 in 1948 and average production per cow reached an all-time high. Favorable prices and strong demand encouraged high production, but it would have been impossible if farmers had not made practical use of modern methods discovered by research.

Many of these practices have been the subject of intensive educational effort on the part of the Extension Service during recent years. For example, by 1948 Maryland farmers had expanded their acreage of ladino clover to more than 60,000 acres. This crop played an important part in achieving the increased production on farms where it is grown. Another crop that contributed to increases in milk output is annual lespedeza which was grown as supplemental pasture on 50,000 acres. These crops were recommended as part of the emphasis on full season pasture and cropping systems adapted to the needs of the farm. Underlying both programs was the special attention given to improving soil fertility.

The number of farms enrolled in Dairy Herd Improvement Associations reached an all-time high with 28 associations serving 603 herds. The production of the animals in these herds demonstrates what can be done when more of the recommended practices are put to use. The more than 17,000 cows averaged 8,225 pounds of milk and 349 pounds of butterfat. These records are in sharp contrast to the average of all cows in the State—5350 pounds of milk and 214 pounds of butterfat.

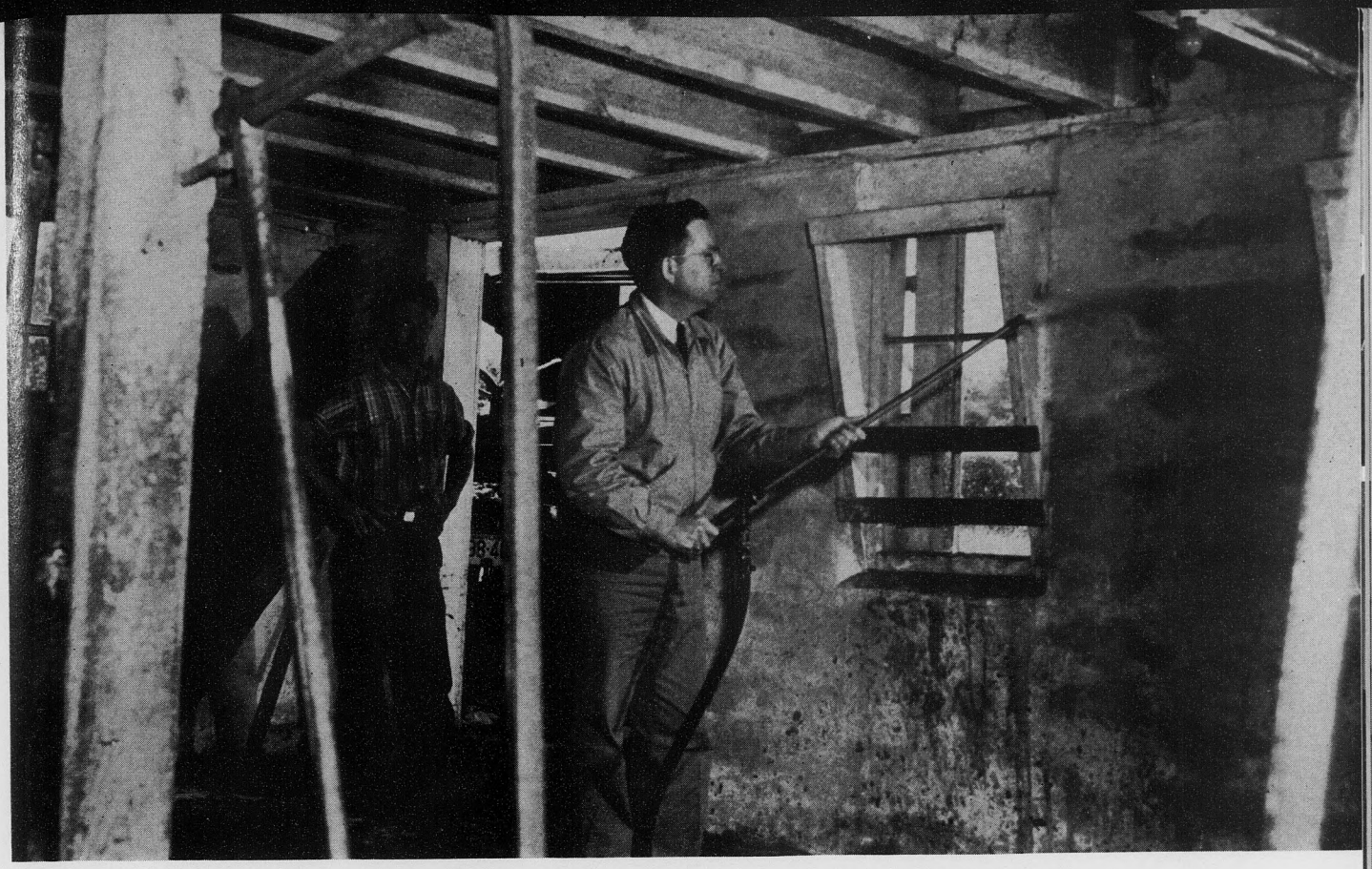
The inherited capacity to produce has been increased through the use of proved sires and artificial breeding. However, to take advantage of this capacity, dairymen must improve their feeding and management practices. Such practices were made a major part of the Extension dairy program. The winter meetings attended by more than 1400 dairymen stresssed the methods to be used. As a teaching tool for these meetings and for other uses during the year, the department issued a leaflet entitled "How To Make Up An Economical Dairy Ration."

Field day shows continued as a popular educational device in the dairy field. Seventeen such shows, sponsored by breed organizations, attracted 350 exhibitors with a total of 955 animals on display. The primary objective was to demonstrate the characteristics of good quality stock for both adult and junior dairymen. The 4-H exhibitors at these events showed 317 animals.

The problems of price, feed supplies, and demand for dairy products have long been with the dairy industry. However, during 1948, the Extension economists made further headway in helping farmers meet these problems. Comprehensive statements on the economic outlook were supplied at the beginning of the year. These were followed by further-up-to date statements as the year unfolded. A study of fluid milk pricing in the Philadelphia market was also continued.

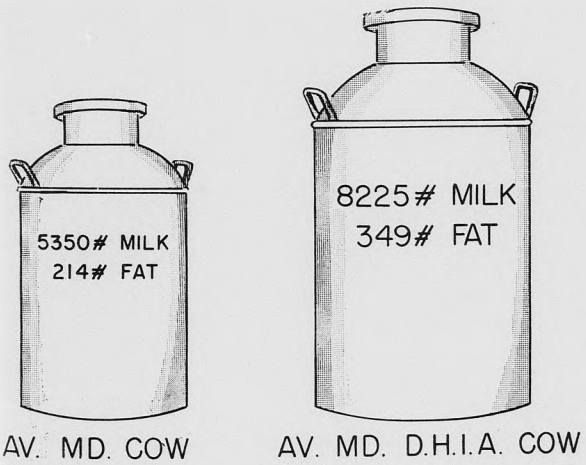
Use of artificial insemination, a fairly recent development in the dairy industry, continued to increase rapidly during the past year. Extension dairymen stress that it is a new method of herd improvement; not just a means of permitting farmers to do away with the herd sire. Breeding efficiency was greatly improved as the average rose from 50 percent in 1947 to 68 percent last year.

The service is now available in the major milk producing areas of the State where approximately 85 percent of the cows are located. The bull stud at College Park housed 20 bulls; 6 Holsteins and Guernseys and 4 Ayrshires and Jerseys. More than 1600 members enrolled more than

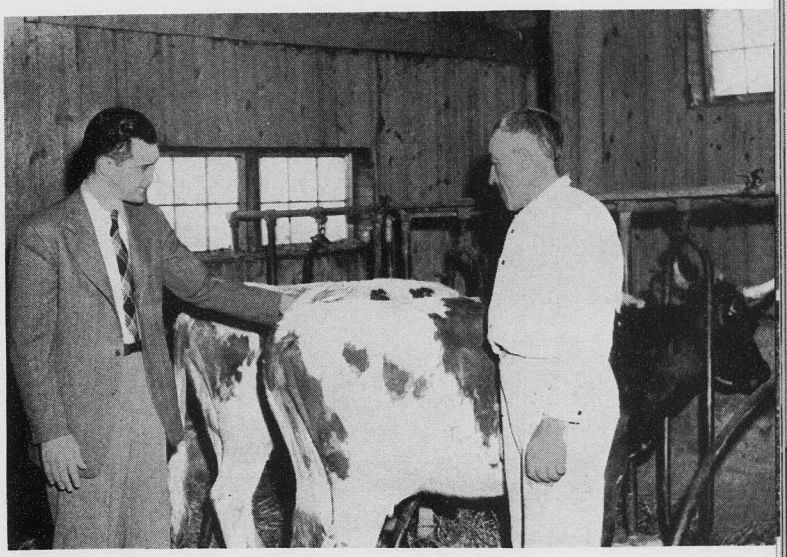


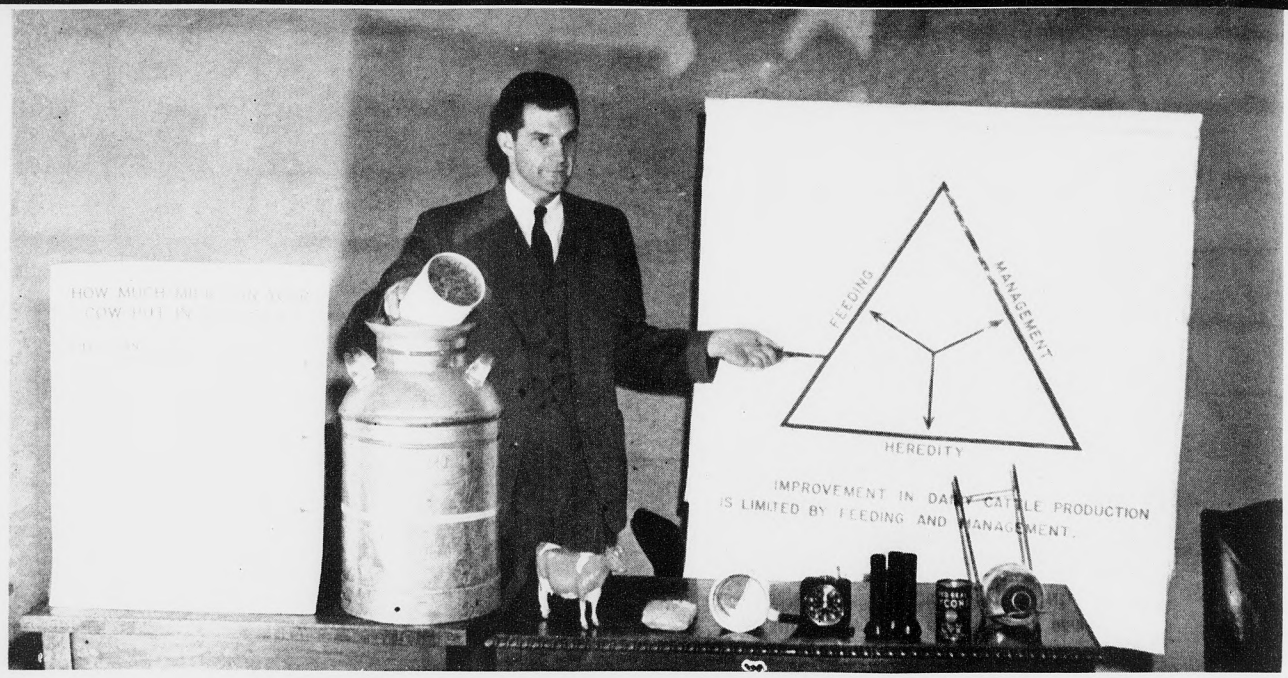
Fly control programs did much to help the dairyman increase production of high quality milk.

22,000 cows and approximately 1200 non-members used the services provided. Garrett County formed a new unit during the year to become the first in the State with two associations serving its dairymen. Caroline County formed a unit for the first time to bring the total to 16 units in the Free State.



Artificial Breeding Associations and Dairy Herd Improvement Associations are working together to improve Maryland dairy cattle. Shown below is the program's first artificially sired heifer to freshen.





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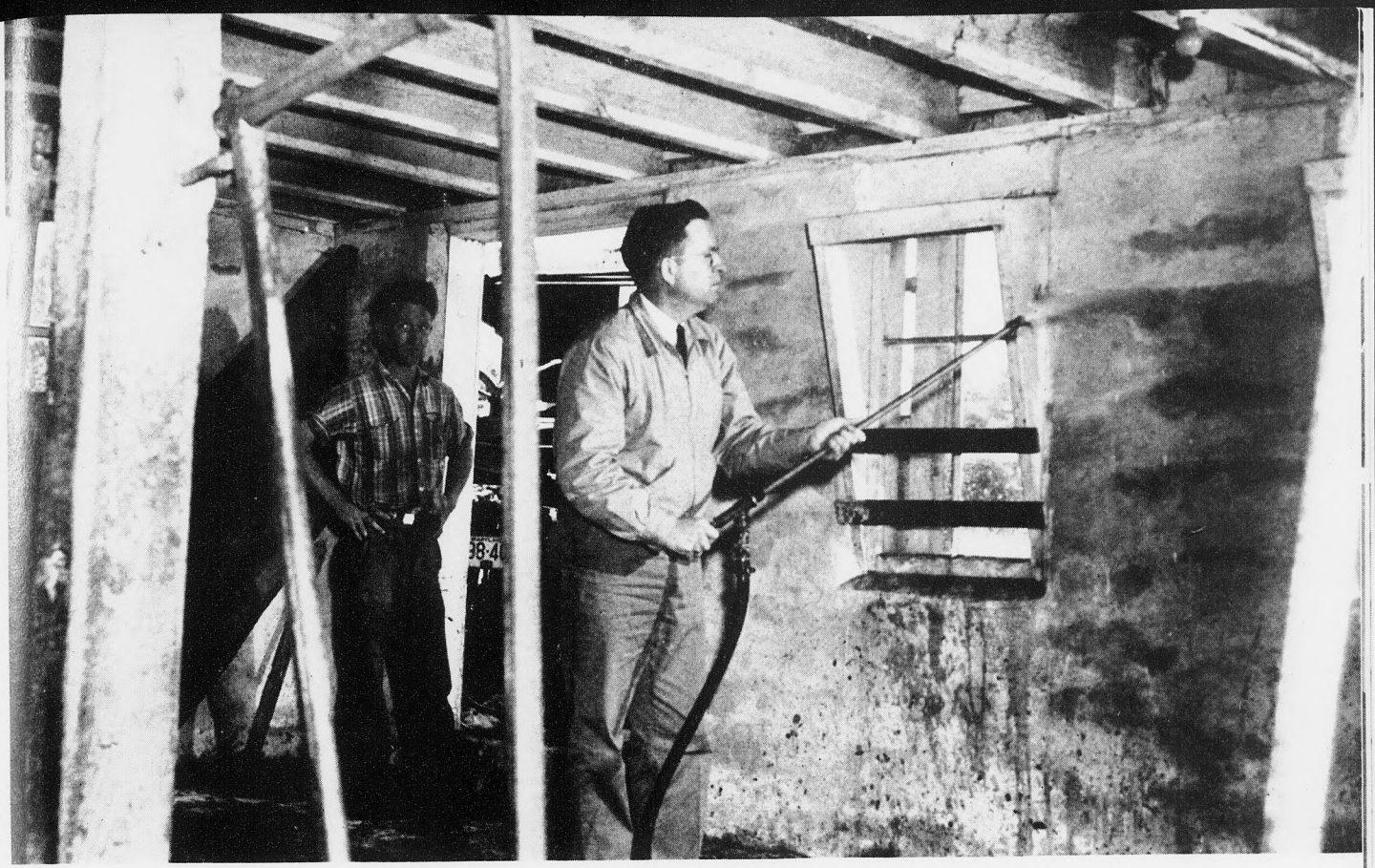

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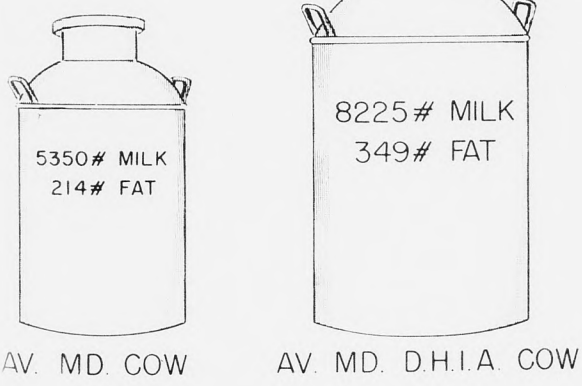

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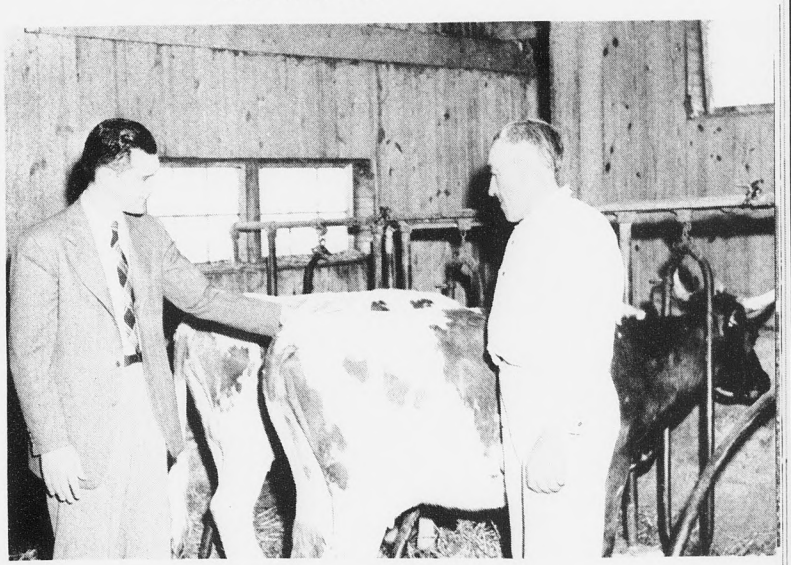


Breeders and other poultrymen attended a state-wide school for flock selection training.

Poultry

Extension poultrymen have found that an industry as big as the poultry industry in Maryland can best be served by working with organized groups of poultrymen and with breeders, hatchery operators, and others whose business affects thousands of poultrymen directly.

For example, considerable time was spent working with R.O.P. (Register of Production) breeders of both chickens and turkeys. The bloodlines developed by these breeders are used to improve the quality of chicks and poults sold to commercial producers in all parts of the State. These producers base their entire business on the young stock they buy. The success or failure of many other recommended practices will be determined to some extent by the inherited capacity of the chicks or poults, thus this type of Extension work offers big dividends for the time invested.

As for getting the results of research to Maryland poultrymen, 1948 was a typically active year. Organizations such as the State Poultry Council; Harford, Cecil, and Talbot County Poultry Associations; the Maryland Turkey Producers Associations; the Westminster Cooperative Poultry Products Auction, and similar groups were assisted in educational and cooperative programs.

Special attention was given to maintaining high quality in eggs from the time they were laid until they reached the consumer. Poultrymen were given the latest information on the care of eggs; frequent gathering, immediate cooling, proper storage, and prompt marketing were stressed. Inspectors working on the State's egg quality law aided retailers by showing them how to maintain high quality in eggs after receiving them from the wholesaler. This work is of benefit to the consumer and the farmer as well as to the retailer; the consumer can buy with confidence and the farmer knows that his efforts to market quality eggs are not being offset by poor handling.

Eggs were not the only poultry product to be included in marketing programs during the year. Broilers, a Maryland product with a national reputation, returned a gross income of more than 42 million dollars during the year. This was almost 10 million more than the year before, the gradual change to peace time conditions began to create marketing problems during the year. Poultry specialists helped processors with merchandising and packaging problems, cooperatives were assisted in a change to the "pool" system of marketing, and general information on marketing problems was made available to farmers by means of newspapers, radio, and trade papers.

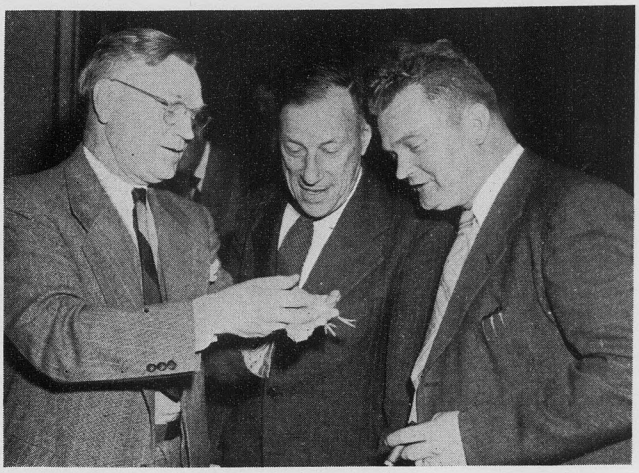
Successful poultry production depends to a large extent upon the use of the right feeds and proper feeding practices. Most poultrymen must depend upon their feed manufacturer to supply them with feeds which contain proper

amounts of nutrients for each type of production. Manufacturers have been doing better and better as research workers have supplied them with the necessary information. One of the Extension tasks of the poultry department has been to pass the results of research on to the feed companies.

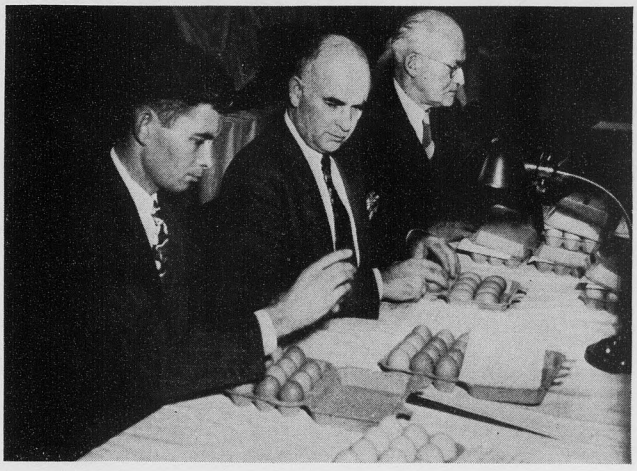
However, the job is not done until poultrymen have learned to use each feed correctly. This type of education was carried on during 1948 through direct contact with farmers who came to Extension agents and poultry department specialists with their feeding problems. A bulletin on feeds and feeding which has been widely used during recent years is being revised for publication early in 1949. It provides recommendations on use of feeds and on feeding practices. These are based on the results of recent research and will do much to help the poultryman apply research results to his own production problems.

Many other extension projects resulted in participation by a considerable number of the State's poultrymen. About 300 attended the summer tour which concluded with a visit to the Chicken of Tomorrow exhibit at Georgetown, Delaware. Forty-three individuals contributed entries to the Poultry Products Show held in connection with the winter meetings in Baltimore, approximately 100 enrolled in the poultry breeders school at the University.

Special studies were made during the year by the department of agricultural economics and marketing to determine prevailing practices in the broiler industry. The results of these surveys were made available to farmers in publication form and through local papers and radio stations. The department also did much during 1948 to improve the economic information available to poultrymen. Some of this was put in the form of Outlook statements, other material was presented at local meetings of poultrymen as well as at state-wide gatherings.

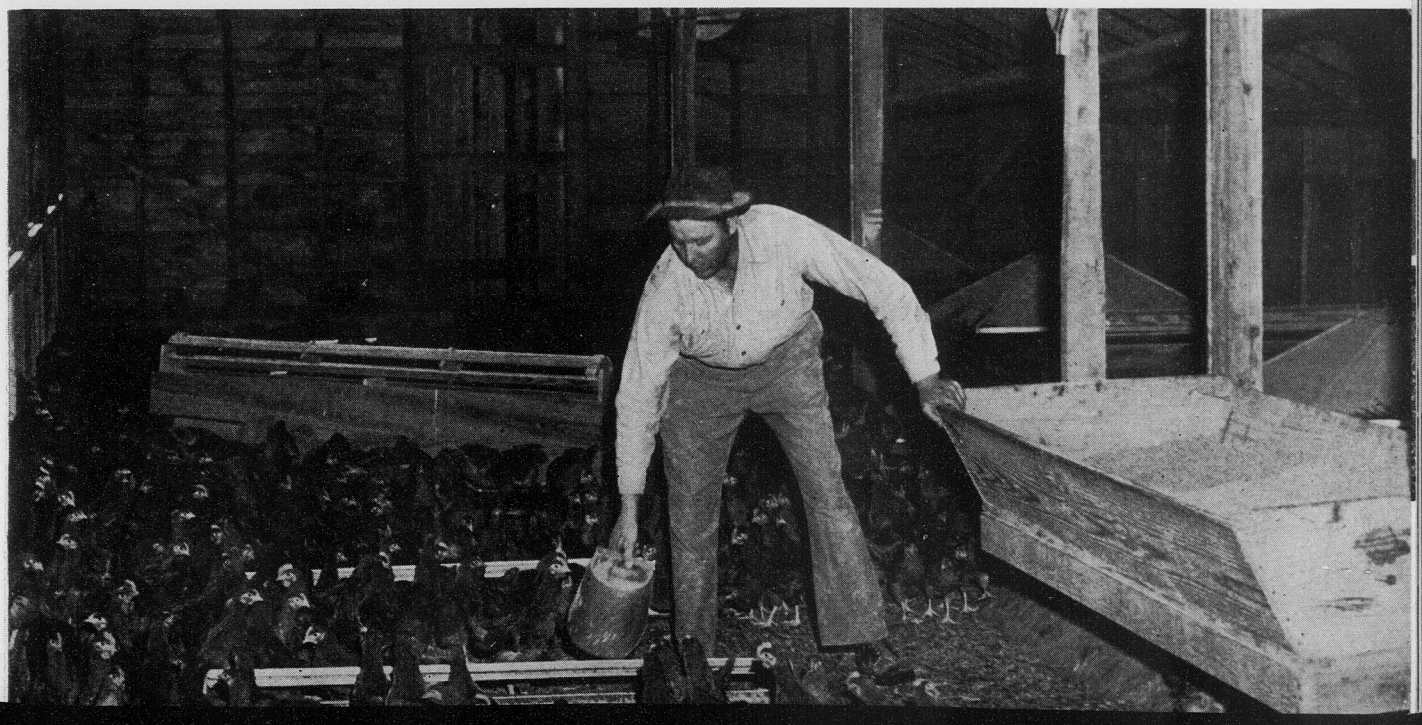


Specialist, Agent, and Poultryman confer at winter meeting.



Specialists are frequently asked to judge contests.

Efficient feeding is vital to the success of Maryland's broiler industry.



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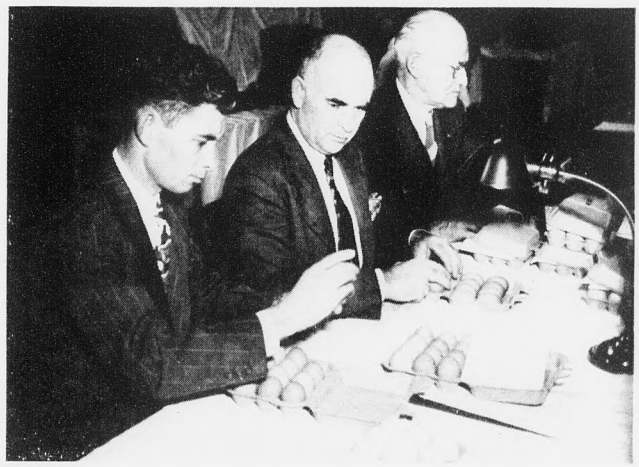
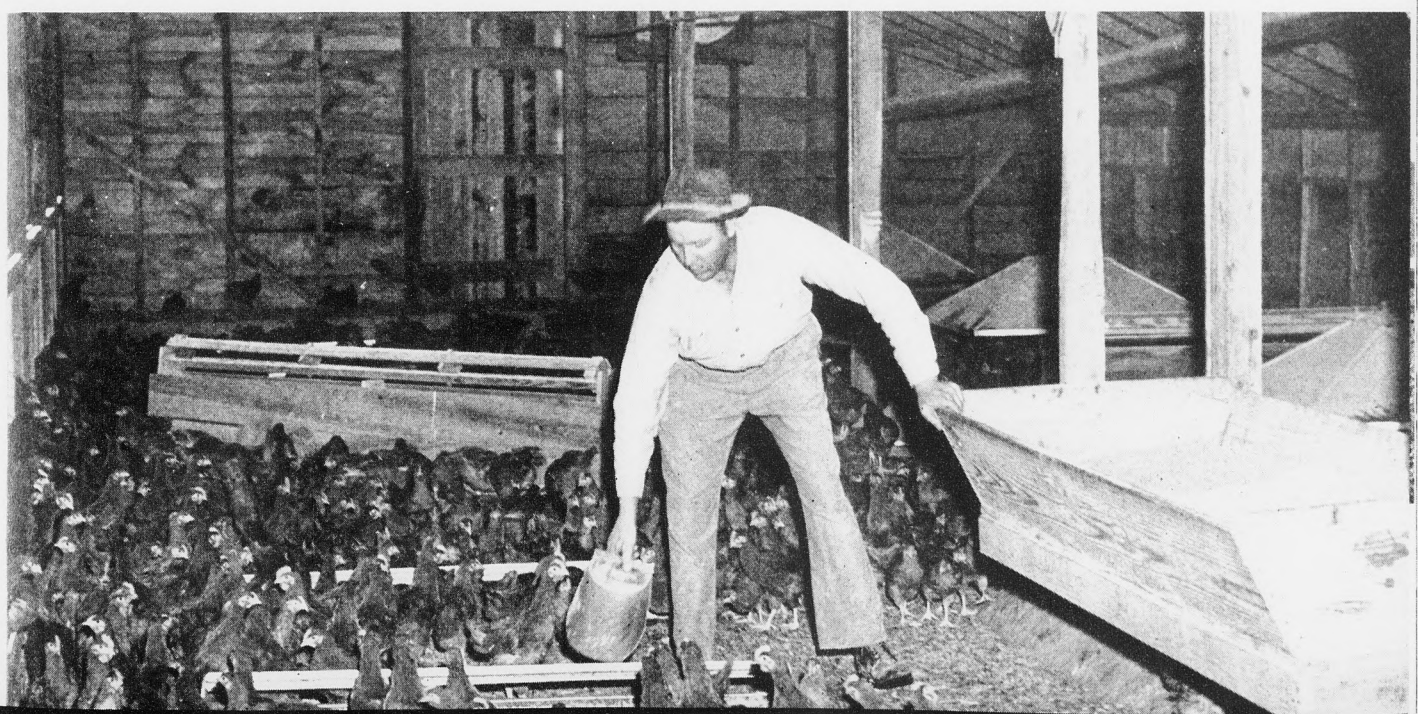
Special studies were made during the year by the department of agricultural economics and marketing to determine prevailing practices in the broiler industry. The results of these surveys were made available to farmers in publication form and through local papers and radio stations. The department also did much during 1948 to improve the economic information available to poultrymen. Some of this was put in the form of Outlook statements, other material was presented at local meetings of poultrymen as well as at state-wide gatherings.

Specialist, Agent, and Poultryman confer at winter meeting.



Specialists are frequently asked to judge contests.

Efficient feeding is vital to the success of Maryland's broiler industry.



Winners of Maryland's Ten Ton Tomato Contest demonstrate practices which result in bigger yields and higher quality crops. Suitable awards are presented annually to those with highest production and best quality.

Fruit and Vegetables

The attack on fruit and vegetable problems was carried on by four-way cooperation between specialists in Horticulture, Entomology, Plant Pathology and Agriculture Economics and Marketing. The never-ending warfare against insects and disease was continued much as in recent years. Growers were given the latest information about new ammunition through a new Spray Calendar. This was published early in the year to describe new spray programs and give recommendations on the use of the most effective chemicals.

The Calendar was followed by a series of spray warning cards mailed from the County Agents' offices at the appropriate time. These were prepared through cooperation of the specialists concerned. To help growers get the best possible control, the specialists also provided them with information about spray equipment and demonstrated methods which have proved most effective.

Not all the problems in fruit production deal with spraying. Growers were given information concerned with fertilizer application, use of cover crops, pruning, pollination, adapted varieties, and many other important problems. To get this information they attended state-wide meetings sponsored by the Horticultural societies, they participated in local meetings arranged through their county agents, and they read leaflets, bulletins, and news releases, and listened to radio talks.

Home fruit production is especially popular in Maryland and many types of tree and small fruits may be successfully grown. Urban dwellers, embarking on backyard production, need different information than is furnished commercial growers. This demand was met through a series of mimeographed publications which were widely advertised and distributed in large numbers. Details from the selection of the best variety to the harvest of the crop were included.

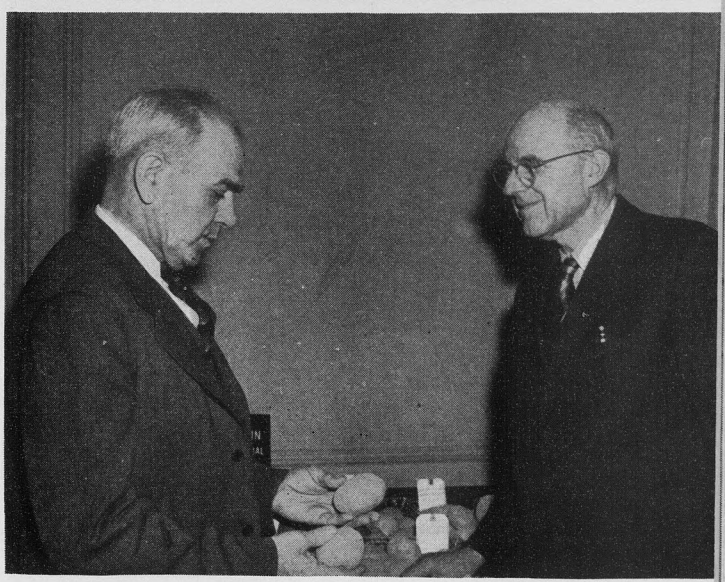
Marketing the commercial fruit crop became an important part of the Extension educational program this year as the department of agricultural economics undertook studies of packaging and handling methods. Special effort was made to assist growers in a program of marketing firm ripe peaches and a foundation was laid for future development. The same department, through its market news services, provided complete market information throughout the season. A report of truck receipts on Baltimore markets was started and continued through the year. This new market information was made available through newspapers, radio, and market reports mailed to growers to guide them in their marketing decisions.

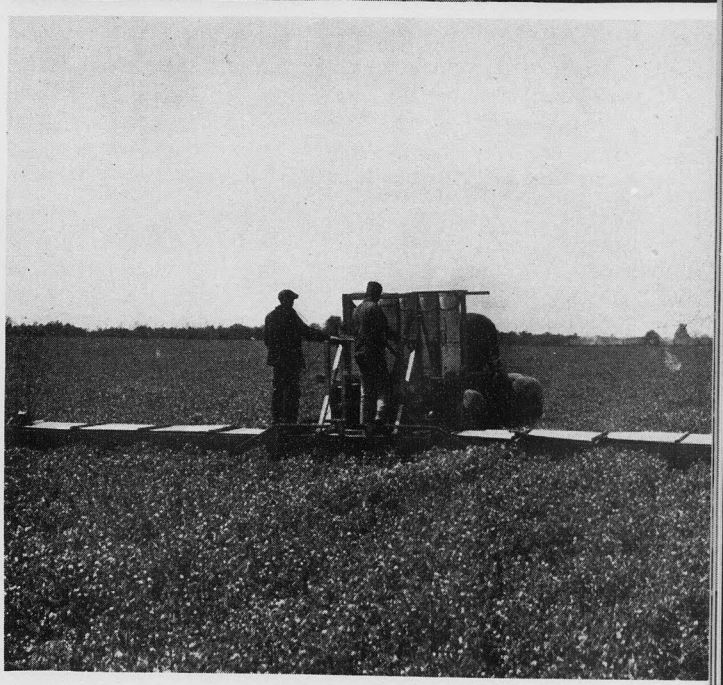
Educational programs dealing with Maryland's important vegetable growing industry were also partnership arrangements with several departments at the University cooperating. Late blight of tomatoes has been particularly destructive since 1946. Plant pathologists this year cooperated with growers and Extension Services in other States to provide a warning service, designed to keep growers alerted to the advance of late blight, and other diseases, from one State to another. At the same time research workers were investigating possible disease resistant varieties, plant spacing, and other factors which might be varied to aid in disease control. Results of these studies were passed on to growers as rapidly as possible through newspapers, radio, a special leaflet, and similar means.

Growers of sweet corn and other crops have followed with intense interest the development of chemical weed controls. Consequently, demonstrations conducted by Extension specialists attracted wide attention. Approximately 365 acres of sweet corn were treated under commercial conditions with different forms of 2, 4-D demonstrations on a smaller scale. Through these demonstrations growers learned many of the possibilities and also some of the dangers and disadvantages of chemical weed control.

Vegetable crops as a group were the first major commodity produced in Maryland to feel seriously the affects of a post-war adjustment. Marketing specialists did everything possible during the year to inform growers of the latest techniques in improved marketing practices. Prepackaging of vegetables was demonstrated through the cooperation of several growers, canning cooperatives were assisted with specialized problems, and consumer information programs were continued on an expanded basis. Few commodities are more affected by day to day fluctuations in markets than are vegetables—particularly those sold on the fresh market. For this reason the Extension Service gave more attention than ever before to providing growers with complete and timely market reports. Care was taken to get such reports to growers as rapidly as possible and considerable cooperation was given by radio stations to help achieve this goal.

One of the highlights of the year for Maryland was the meeting of the National Vegetable Growers' Association in Baltimore. Extension specialists worked in close cooperation with growers to plan and carry out an educational program of interest to visitors from many parts of the country. This included a tour of the Eastern Shore vegetable industry and the experimental plants at Beltsville and College Park.





From top to bottom: Winter Meetings offer specialists, agents, and growers an opportunity to discuss production problems.

Potatoes are an important crop in Western Maryland and on the Eastern Shore.

Insect Specialists and Agricultural Engineers have developed new methods of applying spray materials.

Below: Extension launched a program of improved methods for marketing Maryland cantaloupe.

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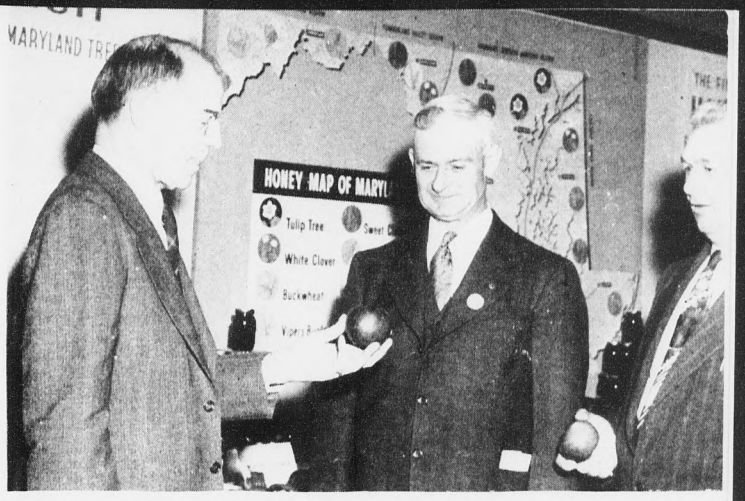

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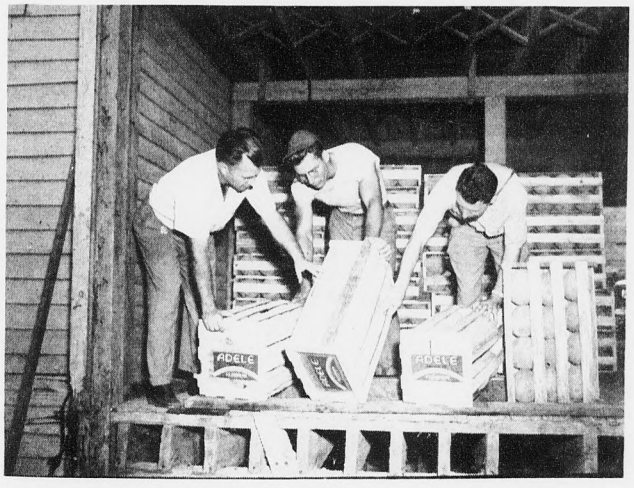

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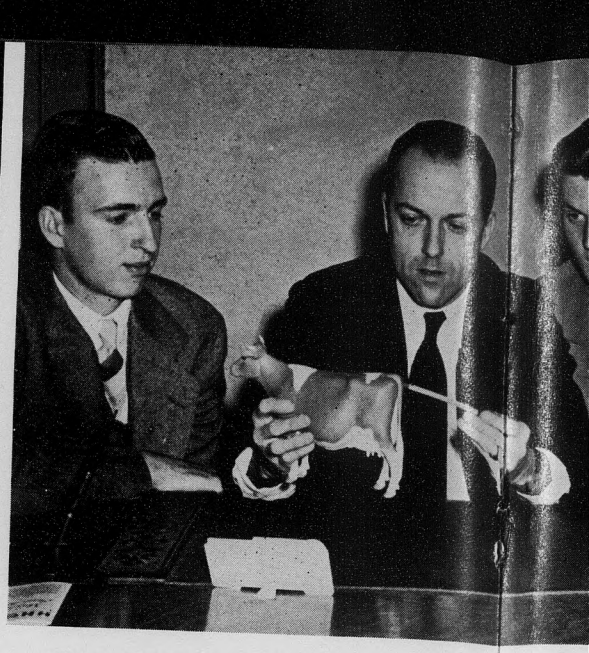


This 4-H dairy cattle judging team represented the United

Four-H

Four-H Clubwork marched through 1948 with banners flying, carrying the services of the University of Maryland to 6169 boys and 6979 girls in rural Maryland. Outstanding results of this program were evident from the smallest communities in the state to the Royal Agricultural Show of England. The slogan "make the best better" has become a greater challenge than ever, if the records of the past year are to be surpassed in 1949.

Among the families with 4-H members, the effect of the program is self-evident. Here one finds improved food and health habits, more effective marketing of produce and buying of farm supplies, better conservation of natural resources, greater efficiency in the home and the fields, and an enriched family and community life.

Much of the credit for these accomplishments of Maryland youth are due the local volunteer leaders, who gave unsparingly of their time and effort. These men and women can in later years look with hard-earned pride upon the lives of the citizens they influenced through 4-H leadership.

Projects, recreation, travel, discussion, and competition were effective in bringing a well-balanced program to each child. The projects, however, were the chief means of translating the research findings of University specialists into everyday practices for the young farmers and homemakers.

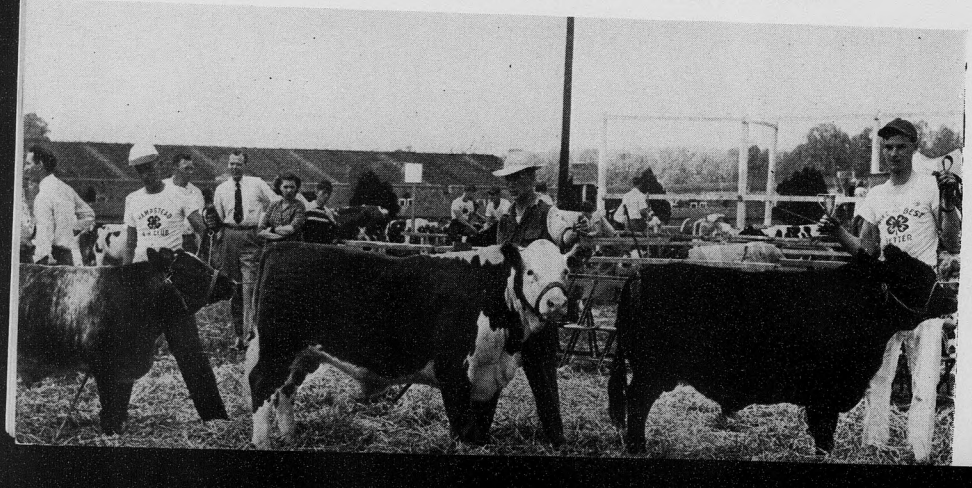
Clothing held top interest for girls as more than 4227 studied better buymanship, clothing construction, grooming, and related subjects. The Foods program attracted 3956 girls, who served more than 71,920 meals and canned over 148,511 quarts of food in 1948. Home Furnishing, Home management, Safety, Child Care and Etiquette remained popular, and a number of girls enrolled in agricultural projects, giving the boys stiff competition in gardening, poultry, dairy and livestock.

Dairying, as the leading agricultural industry of Maryland, engaged 1300 4-H'ers in 1948. Breed associations cooperated by making 120 purebred calves available through their annual "Calf Selection Days". Dairy judging teams won many honors, placing fourth in the Interstate Contest at Waterloo, Iowa; eleventh at Columbus, Ohio; first in Richmond, Virginia; and second in the International Dairy Contest at the Royal Show at York, England.

Although the major livestock projects were poultry, swine, dairy and beef cattle, interest in light riding horses increased, and sheep projects grew steadily. Swine Club membership was stimulated by spring and fall hog shows, and the quality of the hogs improved greatly in the past year.

Conservation of soil, forests and wildlife was carried on by 1083 Club members. The 12th annual Conservation

Show ring contests climax the 4-H year for dairy and livestock projects.



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By giving demonstrations, 4-H'ers learn to do by showing.

Camp at Bittinger was attended by 93 members and leaders from 22 counties.

A state-wide program of tractor maintenance schools was held for the third year in cooperation with the agricultural engineering department of the University, and the American Oil Company. About 40 tractor dealers and 21 counties participated.

"Green Thumbs" were put to work in 3896 4-H Home Gardens. Club members also took part in the National Junior Vegetable Growers' projects, which supplement Club work and provide awards for extra achievement. The profitable roadside stand encouraged 268 boys and girls to try market gardening. And thanks to the Home Beautification project, 835 homes throughout Maryland are getting a "new look". Neat lawns, trim shrubbery, and attractive flower beds are the longtime objectives of this program.

State and national 4-H conferences added to the 4-H picture through the educational, democratic and inspirational nature of these meetings. Maryland was well-represented at these events which help make 4-H a more dynamic asset in the lives of the 14,000 members. State 4-H Club Week at the University was attended by 1132 boys and girls. A delegation of 29 youths, including 8 national contest winners, went to the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago, and 25 others attended the Rural Youth of America Conference in Jacksons Mills, Va. Two boys and two girls took part in the National 4-H Club Camp in Washington.

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International boundaries were crossed not only by the dairy judging team, which visited England, France and Scotland, but also by the young woman who represented Maryland in the International Farm Youth Exchange. Living and working on a Danish farm for several months as "one of the family", she paid short visits to England, Holland, Germany, France and Switzerland. Upon return, she described her experiences to many 4-H and other groups. This International Youth Exchange program shows great promise as a device for creating understanding and good will among rural people of different nations. Maryland, one of the 17 states which sent delegates in the initial group, hopes to be represented each year.

The Older Youth Program, active in 21 counties, reported a membership totalling 1400 young men and women. A sequel to 4-H Club work, this organization develops rural leadership through encouraging and preparing its members to take an active interest in community affairs. The Collegiate Club at the University, with its 75 members is a part of the Older Youth Group.

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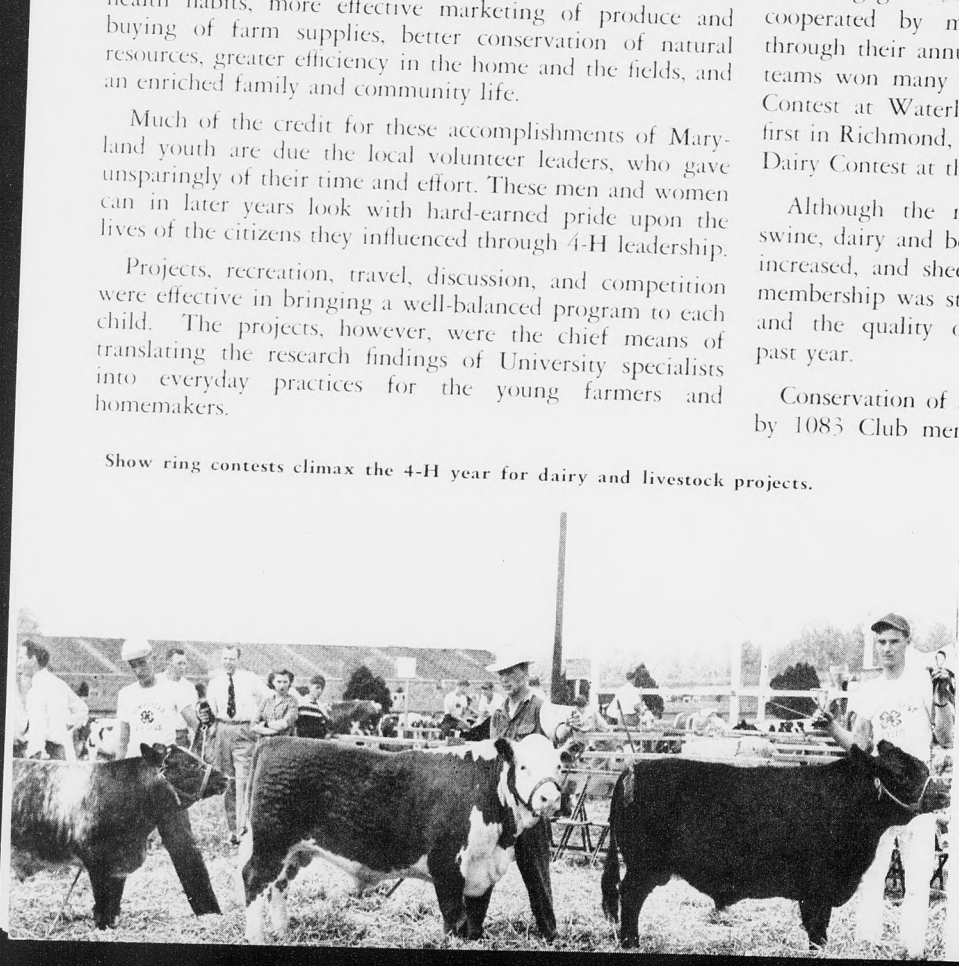

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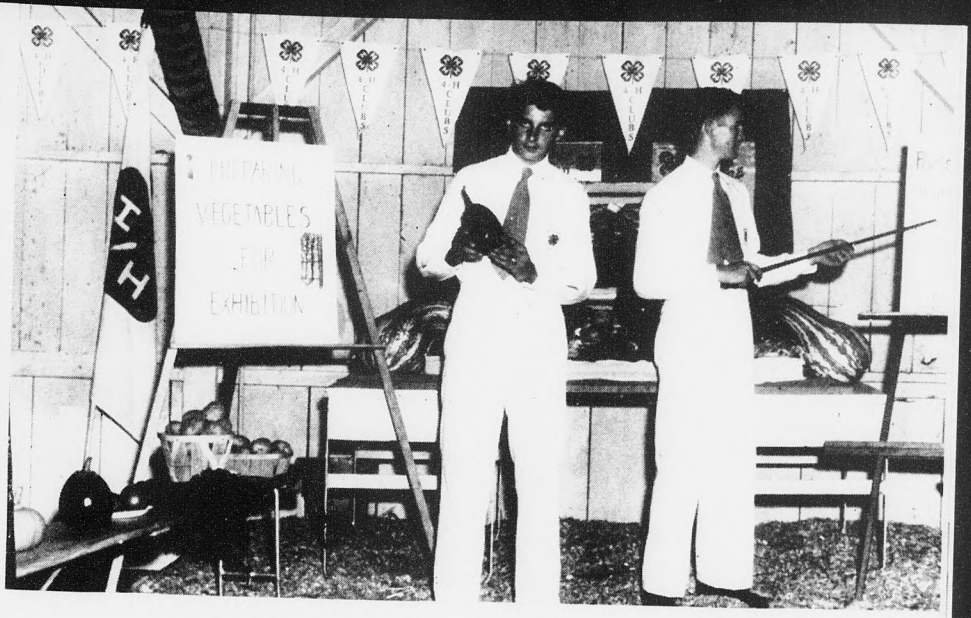

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Home Economics

What was good enough for Grandmother is *not* acceptable to granddaughter today in many cases. Especially is this true of Maryland's rural homemakers, who are becoming less satisfied with "old" ways of doing things, and more eager to streamline their tasks, beautify their homes, and care for their families by the most efficient and modern methods known to science.

The Extension Service has recognized the homemakers' desire for more information that they can apply to their homes, their families and themselves. It gave itself the task of serving more people in more ways, and of helping more people to help themselves. As a result, more women than ever before—nearly 14,000 of them in 385 Homemakers' Clubs and 42 study groups, and 7,500 girls in 4-H and Older Youth Groups — were reached through the 1948 home demonstration program.

This success was achieved by three means. First, extension personnel in the 23 counties was increased to 21 home demonstration agents and 7 assistants. Secondly, more specialists in fields related to home economics such as agricultural engineering, horticulture, etc., participate in the program and the home economics specialists gave more training schools. And thirdly, more leaders were developed among the homemakers themselves who were willing and able to carry on where the work of the agent and the specialists ended. This increase in agents, subject matter and project leaders made for a much broader and more thorough program.

Food and Nutrition projects, aimed at educating farm families in more efficient food production and conservation and in better food habits. Family food needs were individually analyzed and the amount of produce necessary to fill these requirements was determined in each case. Emphasis was given to improving garden soil and checking insect pests. Over 1760 families worked out their food needs and were successful in meeting them by garden production. Another 3450 families were able to improve their food supply by making changes in their gardening.

The freezer locker became increasingly popular as a means of food preservation, and was given special attention in both the equipment and the food picture. At the same time, pressure cookers were changing canning methods, and more information on this technique were supplied. Advice on what food should be frozen, which should be canned or stored, and the varieties best suited to each purpose was welcomed by many homemakers.

More than 5580 homemakers were helped with food preservation problems, and reports reveal that food spoil-

age was reduced. The 9570 women participating in this program "put up" an impressive amount of food: more than 2,192,160 quarts canned; 1,137,280 pounds frozen; 6,890 pounds dried; 13,000 gallons salted; 1,200,840 pounds cured, and 432,690 pounds stored.

Training schools stressed the fact that good nutrition depends on preparing and serving meals attractively as well as selecting the correct balance of vitamins and other nutrients. As a result of this program, 10,000 homemakers reported improving their families' food habits. About 1,300 showed definite improvement in health; 1,225 were helped with child feeding problems; 1,330 with prevention of colds and other common diseases, and 940 4-H girls were helped with individual health problems.

The all-day food schools, initiated in 1948, did as much to develop leaders as to present information to the homemakers. Groups of a dozen or more women were trained to give individual food demonstrations, and at some later date presented these 20-minute demonstrations at Homemakers' Club meetings in an all-day session. Over 1000 women were trained to participate in such schools as these.

The food and nutrition program was reflected in community life as well as in individual families, for 71 schools were helped with their lunch programs, and 21 nutrition-health clinics were organized through home demonstration influence.

Clothing, as one of the four major expenses in the family budget, received an equal share in the year's program. The high cost of ready-made wear, the recent drastic changes in fashion, and growing interest in the extension service swelled the attendance at all clothing schools. Training meetings, giving instructions in everything from children's clothing to tailoring, were held in every county. Over 9,000 families were estimated to have received guidance in clothing selection. Sewing machine clinics, held in cooperation with the agricultural engineering department, reported 350 machines cleaned, repaired, or adjusted.

With efficiency and beauty as twin goals, much attention was paid to home management and furnishings. Fifty training schools, dealing with home repairs, kitchen improvement, pottery, slip coverings, textile painting, and related subjects, brought the latest developments of laboratory research into the practical realm of the home.

And inspired by the wish to keep these homes running smoothly, women turned out in force to attend home repair clinics. Here they became as familiar with a monkey wrench as an egg beater, learning to sharpen knives and scissors and repair pots, pans, toilets and faucets. Electric repair clinics were equally popular. Many counties held kitchen clinics which helped some homemakers remodel existing kitchens and others plan new ones.

The United States Department of Agriculture Bureau of Home Economics, located at Beltsville, Maryland, was of tremendous help to the Extension Service. Not only were reports of their studies made available to homemakers, but frequent club tours through the laboratories made ideals become realities before the Homemakers' eyes.

Realizing that no single phase of homemaking stands by itself, importance was attached to all phases. Child guidance, family recreation, fire and accident protection, wills, insurance, family budgeting and banking received their share of attention.

The Homemakers' interest moved outside the home to focus on International Relations studies of the United Nations, India, and the role of Religion and Peace. Cultural study programs featured the works of American composers and artists, and a selected reading list of both fiction and non-fiction.

Fourteen Maryland women travelled to Tulsa, Oklahoma, to attend the National Home Demonstration Council Meeting and brought back valuable ideas and inspirations to Homemakers of this state. The State Council of Homemakers' Clubs held two executive meetings during the year in Baltimore, each attended by about 30 women. A high degree of unity within the state is created through these conferences.

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age was reduced. The 9570 women participating in this program "put up" an impressive amount of food: more than 2,192,160 quarts canned; 1,137,280 pounds frozen; 6,890 pounds dried; 13,000 gallons salted; 1,200,840 pounds cured, and 432,690 pounds stored.

Training schools stressed the fact that good nutrition depends on preparing and serving meals attractively as well as selecting the correct balance of vitamins and other nutrients. As a result of this program, 10,000 homemakers reported improving their families' food habits. About 1,300 showed definite improvement in health; 1,225 were helped with child feeding problems; 1,330 with prevention of colds and other common diseases, and 940 4-H girls were helped with individual health problems.

The all-day food schools, initiated in 1948, did as much to develop leaders as to present information to the homemakers. Groups of a dozen or more women were trained to give individual food demonstrations, and at some later date presented these 20-minute demonstrations at Homemakers' Club meetings in an all-day session. Over 1000 women were trained to participate in such schools as these.

The food and nutrition program was reflected in community life as well as in individual families, for 71 schools were helped with their lunch programs, and 21 nutrition-health clinics were organized through home demonstration influence.

Clothing, as one of the four major expenses in the family budget, received an equal share in the year's program. The high cost of ready-made wear, the recent drastic changes in fashion, and growing interest in the extension service swelled the attendance at all clothing schools. Training meetings, giving instructions in everything from children's clothing to tailoring, were held in every county. Over 9,000 families were estimated to have received guidance in clothing selection. Sewing machine clinics, held in cooperation with the agricultural engineering department, reported 350 machines cleaned, repaired, or adjusted.

With efficiency and beauty as twin goals, much attention was paid to home management and furnishings. Fifty training schools, dealing with home repairs, kitchen improvement, pottery, slip coverings, textile painting, and related subjects, brought the latest developments of laboratory research into the practical realm of the home.

And inspired by the wish to keep these homes running smoothly, women turned out in force to attend home repair clinics. Here they became as familiar with a monkey wrench as an egg beater, learning to sharpen knives and scissors and repair pots, pans, toilets and faucets. Electric repair clinics were equally popular. Many counties held kitchen clinics which helped some homemakers remodel existing kitchens and others plan new ones.

The United States Department of Agriculture Bureau of Home Economics, located at Beltsville, Maryland, was of tremendous help to the Extension Service. Not only were reports of their studies made available to homemakers, but frequent club tours through the laboratories made ideals become realities before the Homemakers' eyes.

Realizing that no single phase of homemaking stands by itself, importance was attached to all phases. Child guidance, family recreation, fire and accident protection, wills, insurance, family budgeting and banking received their share of attention.

The Homemakers' interest moved outside the home to focus on International Relations studies of the United Nations, India, and the role of Religion and Peace. Cultural study programs featured the works of American composers and artists, and a selected reading list of both fiction and non-fiction.

Fourteen Maryland women travelled to Tulsa, Oklahoma, to attend the National Home Demonstration Council Meeting and brought back valuable ideas and inspirations to Homemakers of this state. The State Council of Homemakers' Clubs held two executive meetings during the year in Baltimore, each attended by about 30 women. A high degree of unity within the state is created through these conferences.

More than 14,000 women meet regularly in 385 Homemakers' Clubs to study a wide variety of topics.

National Home Demonstration Week was one of the Major events of state-wide importance in 1948. Forty-five clubs in the state held teas in observance of the occasion, and throughout the counties, recognition programs honored leaders and agents. Fashion and antique shows, special church services, tours, exhibits, club suppers and many other functions helped to acquaint the public with the accomplishments of home demonstration work. Much of the increase in Homemakers' Club membership and the organization of 27 new Clubs were largely the result of the activities of this week.

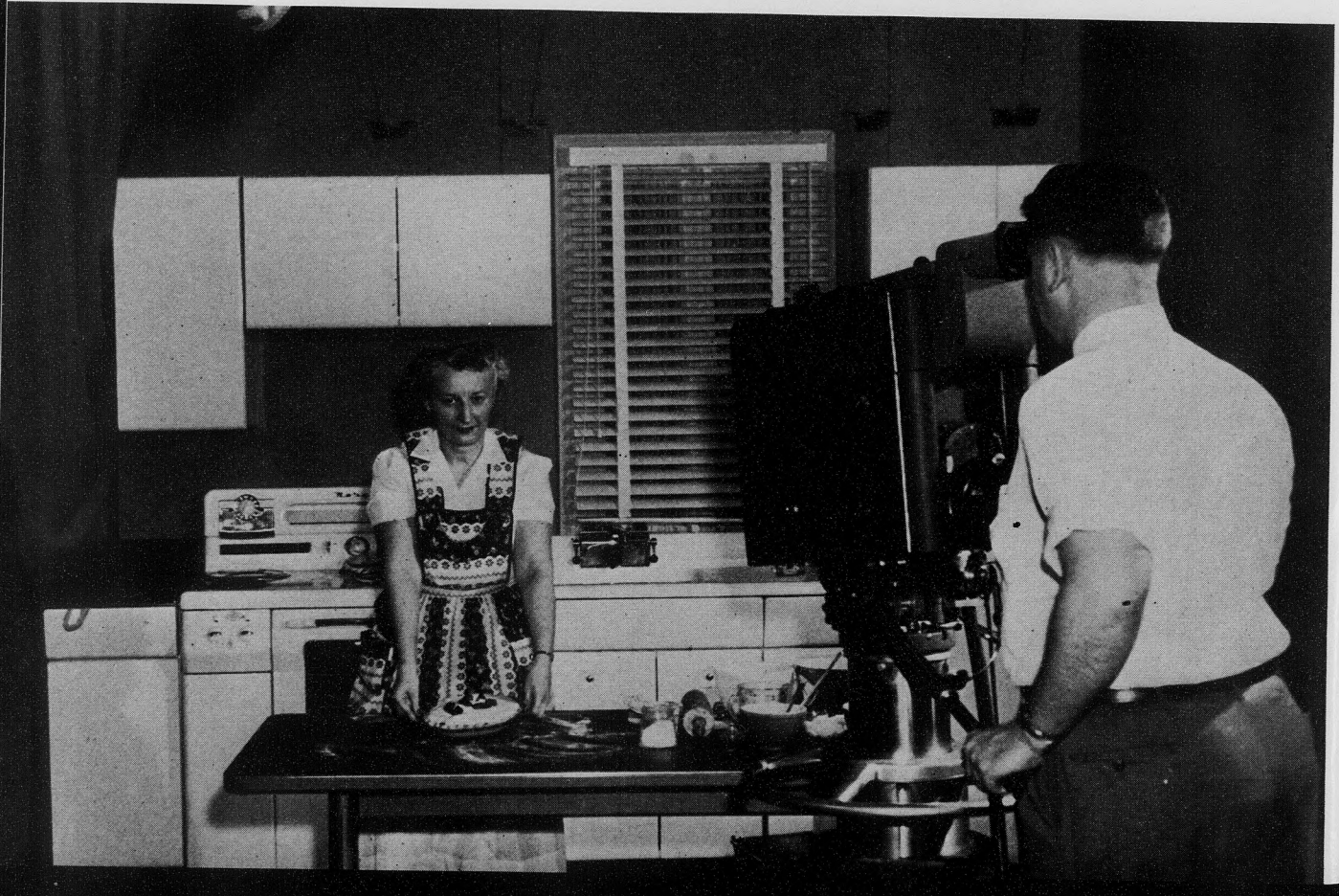
More than 9,000 families received guidance in clothing selection.

The annual Rural Women's Short Course, or "College Week for Women", registered 1100 women for its five-day program of lectures, demonstrations, tours and parties. Their curriculum included Foods & Nutrition, Clothing, Music Appreciation, Public Speaking and Personality Development, Home Furnishing, Landscape Gardening, Family Living, Home Management, Effective Speaking, Journalism, Parliamentary Law and English. Eighty-one women completed the "four year course" and received their certificates at a formal graduation ceremony.

Highlighting the week was a ceremony given in honor of Miss Venia M. Kellar, Assistant Director of Extension. At this time her portrait was presented to the University as a lasting tribute to her "untiring efforts, leadership and foresight which have enriched rural family life throughout the entire State of Maryland."

City home demonstration work made a very successful beginning in Baltimore. The Extension program was taken to homemakers of that city and neighboring areas through radio and television. Broadcasts and television shows entered hundreds of homes regularly, with educational material in the field of home economics. These programs acquainted Baltimoreans with the existence of the comparatively new city agent, and laid the groundwork for the formation of many Homemakers' Clubs and adult project groups.

Television, a new educational tool, is helping Extension reach more people.



Livestock shows gave all producers a chance to study good stock.

Livestock

Extension activities dealing with livestock were characterized by the close cooperation given by organized groups of producers and breeders. Approximately 400 head of young beef breeding cattle were distributed through sales sponsored largely by breed organizations. Combination shows and sales such as the Eastern National Livestock Show did much to demonstrate the qualities of good stock and to give all producers a chance to study good stock.

The extension specialists almost invariably served on the committee to select individual animals for such events. This has afforded excellent opportunity for educational work, and has helped acquaint specialists and breeders. With better acquaintance has come more opportunity for the specialists who advise breeders on the care, feeding, and management of the entire herd as well as the animals consigned to the shows and sales.

With approximately 55,000 horses and mules on Maryland farms, specialists stressed more economical production of colts and the proper care of the farm horse. Swine producers were given general information through bulletins, news releases, and radio talks. Quality was stressed at all of the many shows and judging contests, special emphasis was given to care of the litter with the aim of raising more pigs per sow. For sheep production, the educational programs were aimed at improved management practices for breeders and at helping 4-H club members with lamb feeding projects.

The Stockmen's News Letter was re-established late this year and is to be continued as a regular service and educational device. The farm building plan service available through the Agricultural Engineering department proved a big help to many livestock producers faced with the problem of constructing suitable housing or feeding facilities. Prices of feed and other farm costs discouraged many cattle feeders from stocking their yards this year. However, as prices dropped off in late 1948 prospects for more commercial cattle feeding improved.

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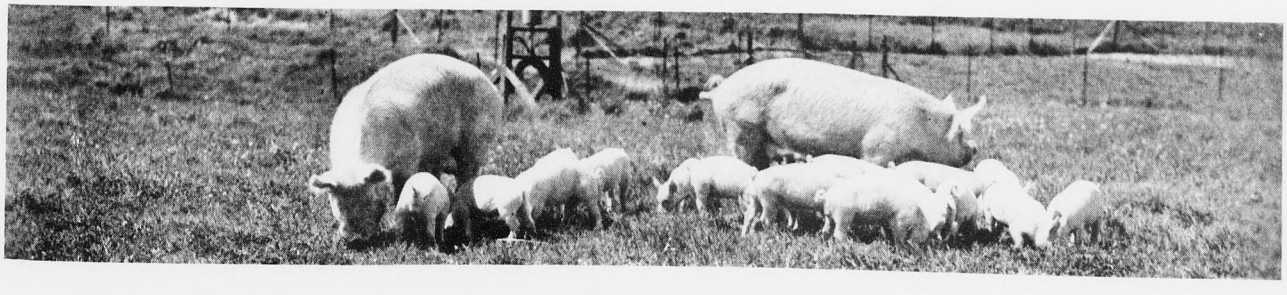

Groups of farmers, extension workers, and others interested in tobacco marketing and production met many times during the year.

Tobacco

Several important developments occurred within the tobacco industry during 1948. Producer groups cooperated with the Extension Service early in the year in sponsoring series of meetings to explain the Federal grading service available to growers if a majority voted favorably in a referendum. The final outcome was a favorable vote and the 1947 crop became the first Maryland tobacco graded under the system.

Federal grading of Maryland tobacco made it possible for the growers to consider support prices. As a result of a change in the price support law, a more favorable support price was made available to growers for the crop to be marketed in 1949. However, growers wanted and needed more information regarding the price support program. Specialists from Agricultural Economics and Agronomy departments cooperated with them in studying government marketing programs. Information was then made available to all growers through cooperatively sponsored meetings and through the newspapers and radio. Another marketing service was improved this year as regular market reports were supplied to all radio stations and newpapers serving the area.

The State purchased a tobacco farm for the University and the tobacco specialist devoted a considerable share of his time to organizing an appropriate production program and in getting the farm arranged for research and educational purposes. The farm will provide ample space for meetings and demonstrations of all kinds.

Tobacco producers were benefited by the plant disease warning service operated in 1948. They were kept informed of the development of blue mold, wildfire, and other diseases. Complete information on modern control methods were supplied through the county agents who made extensive use of circular letters, meetings, newspapers, and other mass media to give growers the facts. Similar assistance was given on the control of insects.

Headway was made in getting increased use of improved varieties as 43 new growers tried one or more. Further progress became possible in the control of weeds and grasses in plant beds as a grower developed commercial equipment for steaming the soil. Soil samples were tested as a means of diagnosing low yield problems and recommendations were given on use of lime, fertilizer, and rotations.

The specialist and agents gave particular attention to helping growers maintain the quality of their tobacco. Information on the use of proper heat and ventilation was given along with publicity on the importance of making full use of good stripping weather in late fall and winter. Construction of adequate stripping rooms with ample size, good illumination and heat was recommended. A new insect, the green peach aphid, attacked Maryland tobacco in the plant bed as well as in the field and special precautions were taken to alert growers to this threat.

Feed Conservation

Although World War II was nearly two years past, problems of an emergency nature continued to arise. One of these was the critical feed situation which confronted eastern farmers during early 1948. Feed handlers, producer groups, and commercial livestock producers were involved and all took part in developing a program to conserve feed. A state-wide committee was appointed and detailed suggestions were outlined to save as much feed as possible throughout the industry and on the farm.

One outgrowth of the feed conservation program was an intensive campaign to get rid of rats. Rat Death Week was observed from March 1 to 6; demonstrations on rat control were staged, and a poisoning program was staged with more than 5,000 cooperators using this means of ridding their farms of rats. The drive for killing rats was followed by a campaign giving information on rat proofing. Both were conducted with intensive help of the Extension entomologist and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

Soil Conservation

Considerable progress was made in the application of soil conservation practices to the land in the educational program necessary to continued progress. The highlight of the educational program came as farmers and businessmen in Frederick County joined hands with farm organizations and agricultural agencies to remake the Thrasher farm in a one-day demonstration. Approximately 40,000 people attended the Maryland Conservation Field Day on August 18 to see the eroded, 175-acre farm changed into a model soil conservation unit.

Local extension agents cooperated with the more than 50 rural and urban groups which played an active part in the "face-lifting" effort. The Extension information staff at the University contributed to the success of the event by a 10 weeks' publicity drive which included the preparation and distribution of regular releases, fact sheets, photographs, mats, and other background material to daily and weekly newspapers, radio and television stations, magazines, and other informational media. A constant follow-up in the information campaign has been continued during the year which followed.

May 11, 1948 marked the tenth anniversary of the founding of Maryland's first Soil Conservation District in Kent County. Since that date farmers themselves, with the cooperation of County Agents and Soil Conservation Service technicians, have organized districts in 22 of the State's 23 counties. Remarkable progress has been made as more farmers have been encouraged to adopt conservation farm plans. Steps have been taken to decrease siltation in important reservoirs serving our cities. Those in charge of our State highway system have cooperated to find means of reducing erosion problems along the highways.

Heavy rainfall during the year helped to arouse more than the usual interest in solutions to drainage problems, particularly on the Eastern Shore. More farmers purchased ditchers with which to do their own drainage work. Extension's drainage engineer cooperated with these land owners to speed-up the conservation program. Tax ditches, many of which were formed with the help of Extension specialists and agents, have also done much to hasten the draining of many acres of farm land. County commissioners

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Conservation was among the topics presented to many special-interest groups meeting with Extension during the year. These included bankers, ministers, and other leaders.

Marketing

Reference has been made, under various commodities of some of the marketing programs. Efforts in this field are worthy of further discussion because of their importance to all producers and consumers in the State.

Moving Maryland's agricultural products to market each year is no small task. Waste along the line between the producer and the consumer can lower profits of the one and increase costs to the other. The reorganized department of agricultural economics and marketing at the University has been conducting a vigorous program to find methods of reducing waste and improving quality. As fast as new facts become known, Extension specialists are carrying them to the groups who can put them to the best use. For example, research conducted by the University and at other institutions has shown that improved handling practices can do much to reduce waste of fresh produce in hands of the retailer. Classes were started late in 1948 for operators of retail stores in Baltimore. Excellent cooperation was extended by organized groups of retailers and wholesalers in an effort to reach as many stores as possible. The information taught in the class has helped improve the quality of produce sold to consumers in these stores. Store managers also report that their produce keeps better and that losses have been reduced. These two results work together to give the consumer better produce at lower prices and to permit better returns to the farmer.

Ornamental Horticulture and Floriculture

Public interest in home ground improvement and commercial flower production is high throughout the State. To serve needs in these fields, the Horticulture department of the University has expanded both its research and extension staffs. New meetings were sponsored for commercial florists and the response was most satisfactory; specialists in insect control continued to cooperate closely with nurserymen; and landscape specialists continued to provide information through demonstration lectures, and personal advice on home grounds improvement problems.

Seed Certification

Another activity carried on by the Extension Service is the inspection and ceritfication of various crop seeds. This work is handled by the Seed Certification Board which continued to give guidance and supervision to the production of pure and viable seeds free of weeds and disease. Special emphasis was placed upon improving the system of certification to achieve even better quality in wheat, barley, and hybrid corn seeds. Under the program, 124 seed wheat growers produced 3,740 acres for inspection, 69 barley growers asked for inspection on 1,136 acres, and 16 independent hybrid corn seed growers grew 199 crossing blocks for certification. Another 500 acres of seed corn grown under contract to seed houses was also inspected. The benefit of this program means much to the thousands of farmers who depend on these seed sources each year.

Extension Work with Colored Families

Colored families in Maryland are making more and more use of the modern scientific farming methods being taught by the Extension Service. They have been eager to make use of the latest in homemaking knowledge and the youngsters have enthusiastically carried on many 4-H projects.

A corps of nine agents are working intensively in the counties with large populations of colored people. They plan and carry out an Extension program that is an integral part of the economic and social life of the people with

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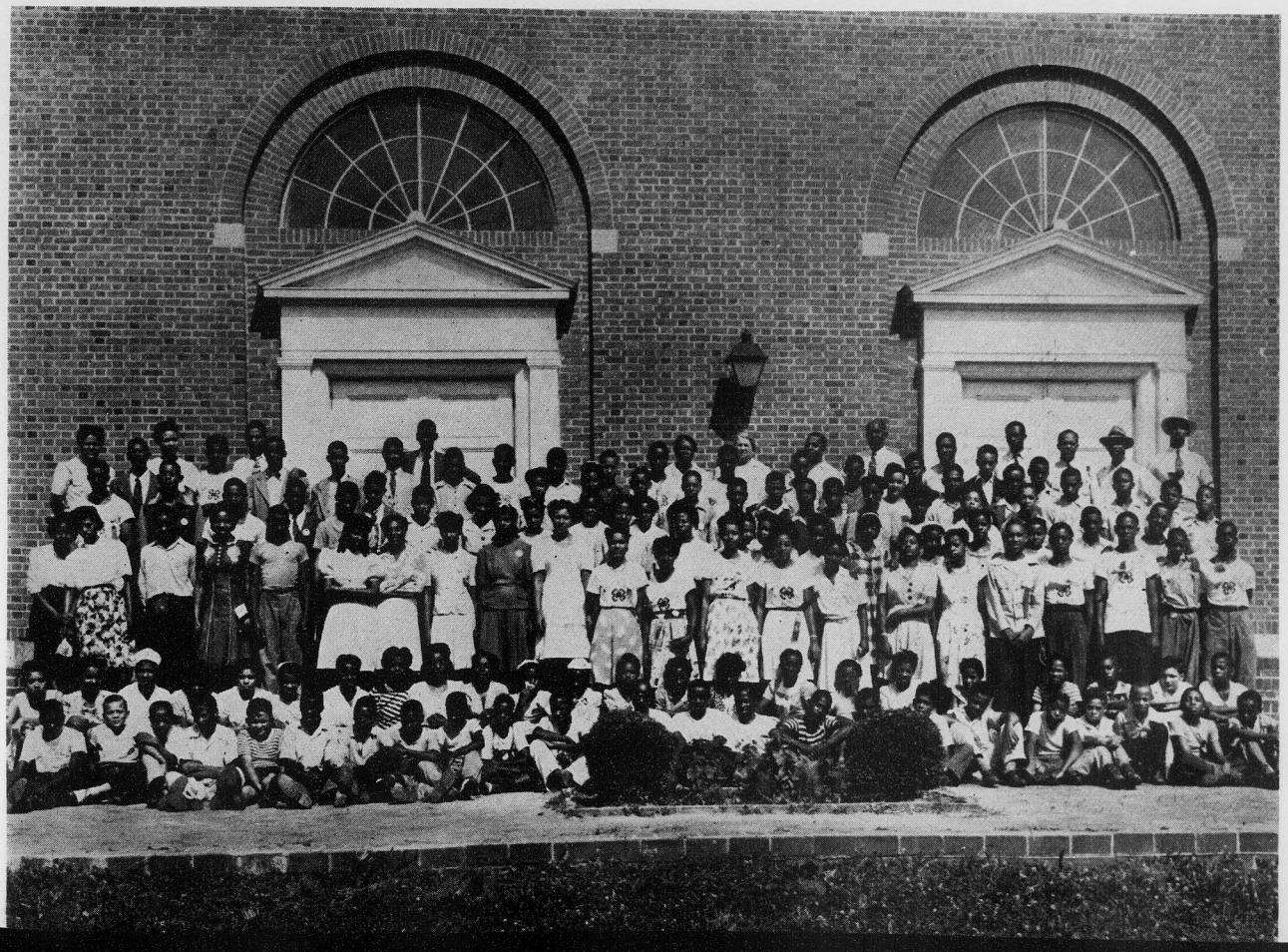

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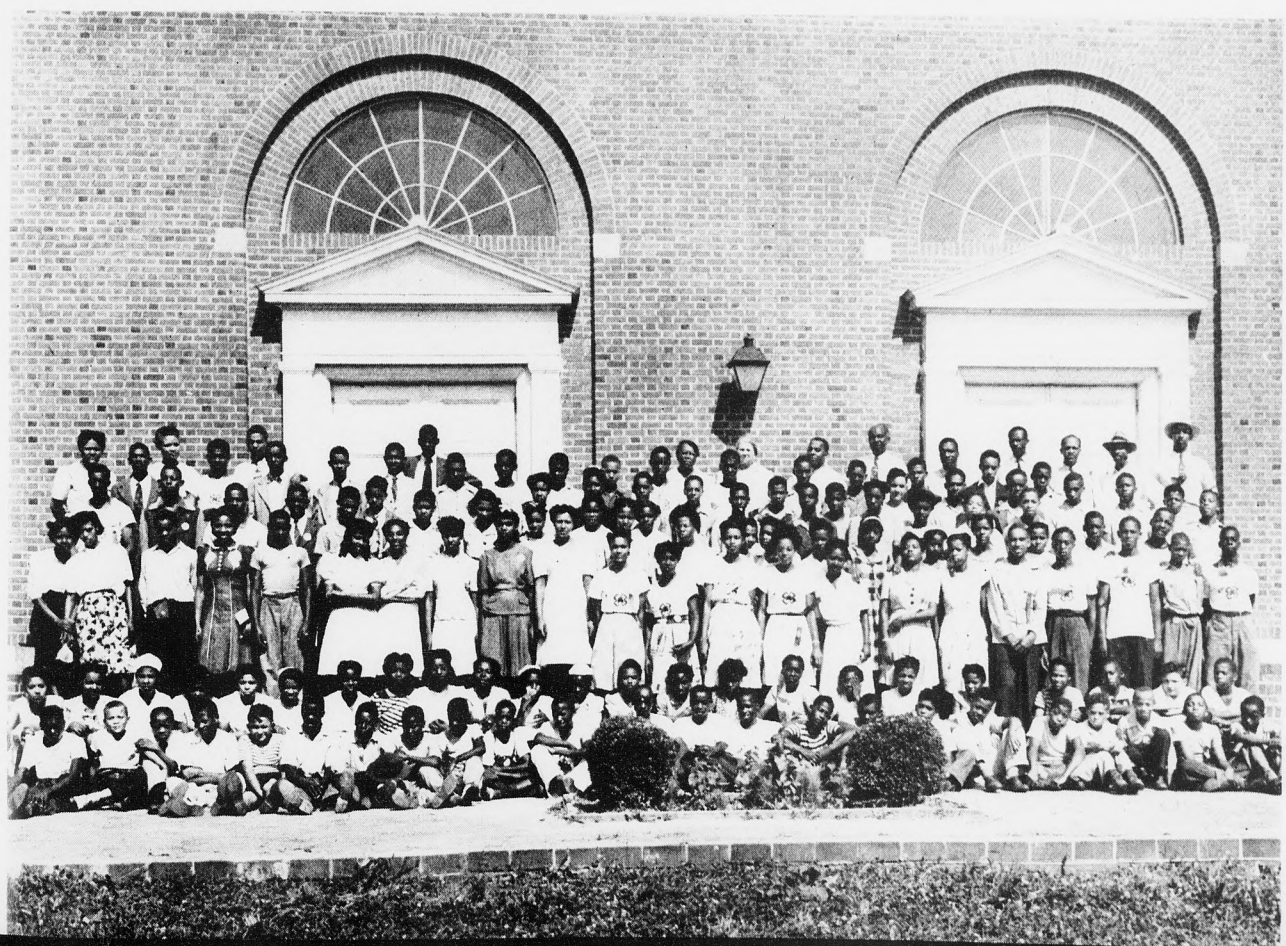


whom they work. Specialists in the various departments cooperate closely with them and render needed assistance; this includes speaking at meetings, judging community shows and fairs, assisting with program planning, and many other similar activities.

Typical of the fine cooperation and interest shown by the farm people was the response to the first county-wide fair sponsored in one of the counties by farmers and their families. More than 6,000 of the county's colored population of 9,000 attended and 454 of 1,100 families in the county participated.

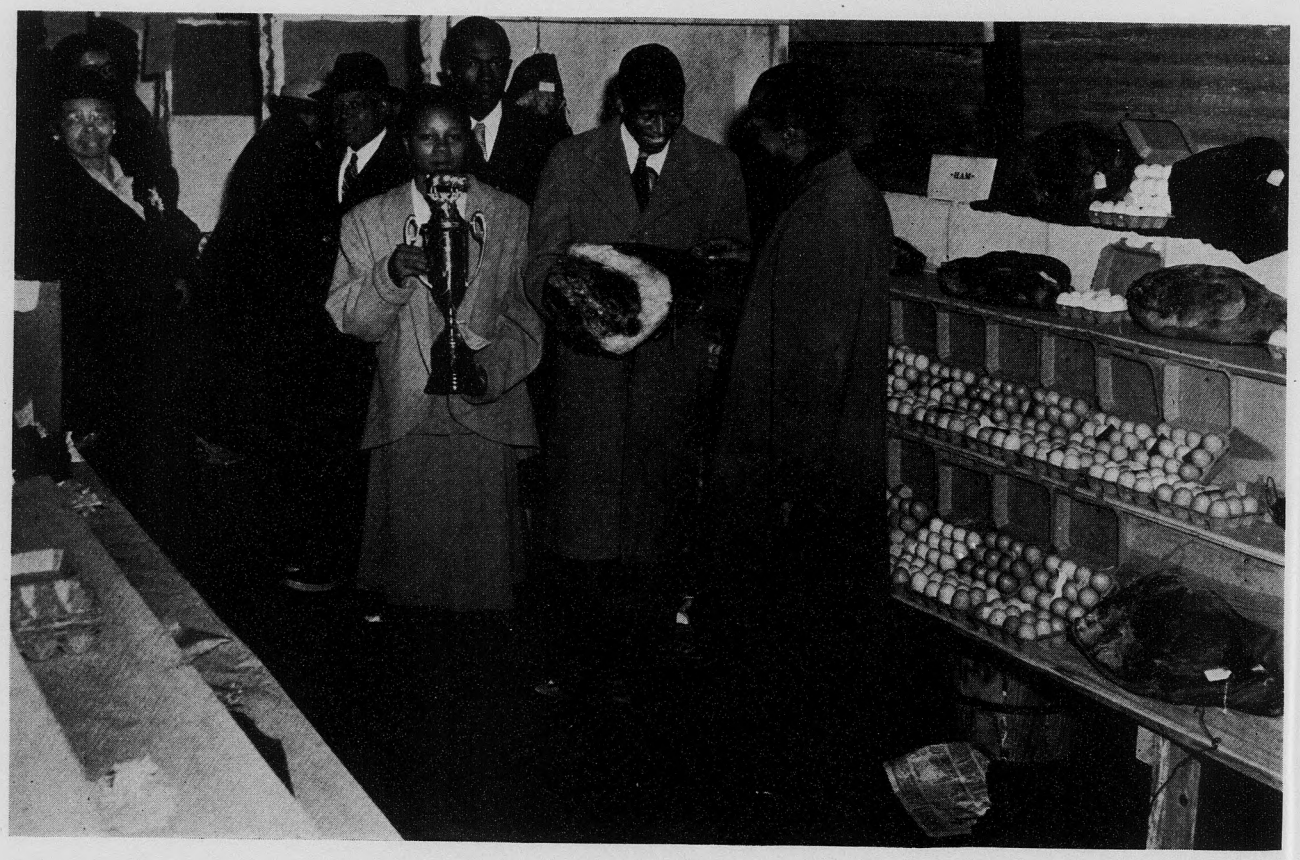
Five major lines of work, suited to most of the counties, were given special emphasis this year. They were: soil conservation, tobacco, 4-H Club work, subsistence farming, and better health. Rural people were called upon to assist in planning the activities that would best reach large numbers of people. These local leaders helped conduct demonstrations and local educational programs.

The home demonstration program, aiming at better living for its members, did much to create an appreciation of education, health and community responsibility during its successful year. In many places where no Homemakers' Clubs exist, the Extension work was conducted through recreation centers, churches, and public schools. A local agent recently has been added to the staff in Baltimore to work with Negro families in that city.

The importance of home gardens as a means of meeting the cost of living and adding health foods to the family diet was stressed. The size and number of these gardens increased, as did the variety and quality of the vegetables grown, and a marked improvement in insect control was seen. More home canning was done, which was reflected in the splendid exhibits at local fairs. Public health improved through home repairs, cleaning of yards and disposal of trash. Recreation programs, carried out as a method of promoting community cooperation, included tours, Sunday services, community dinners, fairs and parties.

With its enrollment of 1407 boys and 1191 girls, Negro 4-H Club work in 1948 centered around garden, poultry and swine projects. A 4-H Short Course, attended by over 200 outstanding youths was held at the State College at Princess Anne. Maryland also sent 4 Club members to the first regional Interstate 4-H Club Camp for Negroes at Baton Rouge, La. The outlook for this program is good. It shows an increase in size and number of projects, a slight gain in enrollment, and more emphasis on leader training. Through this younger generation scientific farming and homemaking methods will bring great benefits.

High quality produce at community shows demonstrated an increased interest in gardening.



A. H. Snyder Retires

After 19 years as Extension Editor, Addison H. Snyder (right) retired on December 31, 1948. During the last few months of his career with the University he also served as Assistant Director of Extension. His record includes 5 years with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, 6 years of agronomy extension work in Iowa, and 17 years of editing a national farm magazine, in addition to his accomplishments in Maryland.

For many of the years he served as Editor, Mr. Snyder not only edited and published the bulletins, leaflets, and reports, but also issued the news service to daily and weekly papers. He served as the contact for magazines and other information media wanting facts about the Extension Service, the Experiment Station, the College of Agriculture, or the Free State's agriculture.

His farm background and editorial experience, in addition to his abilities as a capable writer, more than qualified him as Extension Editor. He did much to improve the appearance and readibility of Maryland bulletins and leaflets. Surely, many Maryland farmers and homemakers are now following improved practices because of Mr. Snyder's skill in using the written word.

Edward Ingram Oswald

Maryland agriculture lost the services during 1948 of a man who had long been a friend and servant of farm people. Edward Ingram Oswald passed away in August after a full life during which he devoted more than 30 years to the improvement of Maryland farm living. His work with farmers' institutes made him a pioneer in educational work before he became County Agent in Worcester County on February 25, 1918. Nine years later, his ability was again recognized as he was made District Agent and later County Agent Leader to work with farmers and agents throughout the State. In 1939 he was again promoted to a larger field of endeavor as he became Assistant Director of the Maryland Extension Service.

Mr. Oswald was farm reared; he knew and loved the ways of farm living. His unlimited patience, unfailing kindness and courtesy, together with his practical common sense approach, not only endeared him to all with whom he came in contact, but made him especially effective in his work.

whom they work. Specialists in the various departments cooperate closely with them and render needed assistance; this includes speaking at meetings, judging community shows and fairs, assisting with program planning, and many other similar activities.

Typical of the fine cooperation and interest shown by the farm people was the response to the first county-wide fair sponsored in one of the counties by farmers and their families. More than 6,000 of the county's colored population of 9,000 attended and 454 of 1,100 families in the county participated.

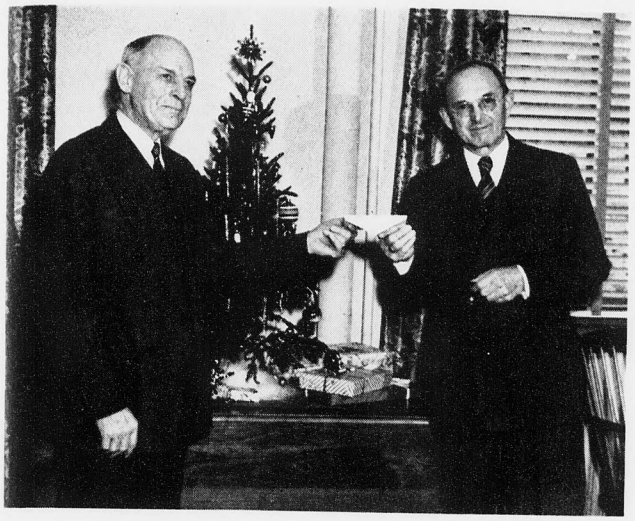
Five major lines of work, suited to most of the counties, were given special emphasis this year. They were: soil conservation, tobacco, 4-H Club work, subsistence farming, and better health. Rural people were called upon to assist in planning the activities that would best reach large numbers of people. These local leaders helped conduct demonstrations and local educational programs.

The home demonstration program, aiming at better living for its members, did much to create an appreciation of education, health and community responsibility during its successful year. In many places where no Homemakers' Clubs exist, the Extension work was conducted through recreation centers, churches, and public schools. A local agent recently has been added to the staff in Baltimore t work with Negro families in that city.

The importance of home gardens as a means of meetin the cost of living and adding health foods to the famil diet was stressed. The size and number of these garden increased, as did the variety and quality of the vegetable grown, and a marked improvement in insect control wa seen. More home canning was done, which was reflecte in the splendid exhibits at local fairs. Public health im proved through home repairs, cleaning of yards and dis posal of trash. Recreation programs, carried out as a method of promoting community cooperation, included tours, Sunday services, community dinners, fairs and parties.

With its enrollment of 1407 boys and 1191 girls, Negro 4-H Club work in 1948 centered around garden, poultry and swine projects. A 4-H Short Course, attended by over 200 outstanding youths was held at the State College at Princess Anne. Maryland also sent 4 Club members to the first regional Interstate 4-H Club Camp for Negroes at Baton Rouge, La. The outlook for this program is good. It shows an increase in size and number of projects, a slight gain in enrollment, and more emphasis on leader training. Through this younger generation scientific farming and homemaking methods will bring great benefits.

High quality produce at community shows demonstrated an increased interest in gardening.



A. H. Snyder Retires

After 19 years as Extension Editor, Addison H. Snyder (right) retired on December 31, 1948. During the last few months of his career with the University he also served as Assistant Director of Extension. His record includes 5 years with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, 6 years of agronomy extension work in Iowa, and 17 years of editing a national farm magazine, in addition to his accomplishments in Maryland.

For many of the years he served as Editor, Mr. Snyder not only edited and published the bulletins, leaflets, and reports, but also issued the news service to daily and weekly papers. He served as the contact for magazines and other information media wanting facts about the Extension Service, the Experiment Station, the College of Agriculture, or the Free State's agriculture.

His farm background and editorial experience, in addition to his abilities as a capable writer, more than qualified him as Extension Editor. He did much to improve the appearance and readibility of Maryland bulletins and leaflets. Surely, many Maryland farmers and homemakers are now following improved practices because of Mr. Snyder's skill in using the written word.

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MARYLAND CROPS

Crop and Year	Acres	Per Acre	Total	Per Unit	Total Value	Value Per Acre
Corn (bu.)						
1948	488,000	39.0	19,032,000	$ 1.30	$24,742,000	$ 50.70
1947	456,000	36.0	16,416,000	2.16	35,459,000	77.76
1946	456,000	38.0	17,328,000	1.60	27,725,000	60.80
Wheat (bu.)						
1948	377,000	16.0	6,032,000	2.13	12,848,000	34.08
1947	370,000	21.0	7,770,000	2.34	18,182,000	49.14
1946	366,000	20.0	7,320,000	2.07	15,152,000	41.40
Oats (bu.)						
1948	40,000	33.5	1,340,000	.91	1,219,000	30.49
1947	38,000	32.0	1,216,000	1.08	1,313,000	34.56
1946	38,000	33.0	1,254,000	1.01	1,276,000	33.58
Barley (bu.)						
1948	75,000	31.0	2,325,000	1.33	3,092,000	41.23
1947	77,000	34.0	2,618,000	1.44	3,770,000	48.96
1946	63,000	34.5	2,174,000	1.44	3,131,000	49.70
Potatoes (bu.)						
1948	15,000	131.0	1,965,000	1.65	3,242,000	216.25
1947	14,100	148.0	2,087,000	1.58	3,297,000	233.84
1946	17,000	132.0	2,244,000	1.33	2,985,000	175.60
Sweet Potatoes (bu.)						
1948	8,500	145.0	1,232,000	1.90	2,341,000	275.50
1947	9,500	140.0	1,330,000	1.88	2,500,000	263.20
1946	9,700	175.0	1,698,000	2.00	3,396,000	350.10
All Hay (tons)						
1948	463,000	1.38	641,000	21.40	13,717,000	29.53
1947	449,000	1.36	611,000	21.20	12,953,000	28.83
1946	448,000	1.41	631,000	19.00	11,989,000	26.76
Tobacco (lbs.)						
1948	47,000	750.0	35,250,000	———	———	———
1947	47,500	795.0	37,762,000	.428	16,162,000	340.26
1946	50,000	940.0	47,000,000	.443	20,821,000	416.42
Apples (Commercial Crop) (bu.)						
1948	———	———	928,000	2.10	1,949,000	———
1947	———	———	938,000	1.85	1,735,000	———
1946	———	———	1,872,000	2.10	3,931,000	———
Peaches (bu.)						
1948	———	———	533,000	2.50	1,332,000	———
1947	———	———	425,000	2.45	1,041,000	———
1946	———	———	646,000	3.30	2,132,000	———
Tomatoes (For Mfg. - tons)						
1948	27,000	4.1	110,700	39.90	4,417,000	163.59
1947	40,500	5.6	226,800	27.50	6,237,000	154.00
1946	43,500	3.2	139,200	42.80	5,958,000	136.97
Sweet Corn (For Mfg. - tons)						
1948	35,200	2.6	91,500	22.00	2,013,000	57.20
1947	41,500	2.3	95,400	20.60	1,965,000	47.38
1946	39,500	2.2	86,900	20.00	1,738,000	44.00

Livestock on Farms

January 1, 1949

	Number	Value Per Head	Total Value
Horses	46,000	$ 76.00	$ 3,496,000
Mules	9,000	94.00	846,000
Milk Cows	234,000	205.00	47,970,000
Other Cattle	194,000	105.70	20,510,000
Sheep	45,000	18.00	819,000
Hogs	257,000	30.80	7,916,000
Chickens	4,238,000	1.80	7,628,000
Broilers (1948 production)	38,233,000	1.11	42,454,000
Turkeys	56,000	10.00	560,000